

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5406

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AMCONSUL KARKOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, VS, US

SUBJECT: POLISH PRESS AND VIETNAM: FOCUS ON FUTURE

REF: WARSAW 2824

1. AN EDITORIAL ON "SAIGON CHANGES," APPEARING IN ZYCIE WARZAWY'S JUNE 7-8 EDITION, TAKES AN ESSENTIALLY POSITIVE, FORWARD-LOOKING VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN VIETNAM AND DOES NOT MENTION THE U.S. ROLE, THE FORMER THIEU REGIME, OR THE WAR IN ANY WAY. IN ITS CONTINUING, THOUGH DE-EMPHASIZED, REPORTING ON VIETNAM, THE POLISH PRESS HAS BEGUN FOCUSING ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE NEW REGIME AND THE "RETURN TO NORMALCY." WE BELIEVE THIS EDITORIAL, THE FIRST WE HAVE SEEN THAT COMPLETELY OMITTS POLEMICAL REFERENCES TO THE PAST, MAY REFLECT A GOP DESIRE TO CLOSE THE WARTIME CHAPTER OFR GOOD, AS FAR AS MEDIA COMMENTARY IS CONCERNED.

2. THE EDITORIAL OBSERVES THAT THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAS RIPENED TO THE POINT WHERE THE PROCESS OF TRANSFERR-

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ING POWER TO CIVILIAN BODIES CAN BEGIN, INDICATING THAT THIS

WILL CONCLUDE A CERTAIN PERIOD IN THE LIFE OF THE SOUTH, EVEN
THOUGH THE "RADICALIZATION" PROCESS WILL CONTINUE. IT POINTS
OUT THAT "NORMALIZATION" WILL NOT BE EASY FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY
FORCES TO ACCOMPLISH BECAUSE IT INVOLVES NOT JUST REVIVING THE
ECONOMY BUT TRANSFORMING THE HABITS AND MENTALITY OF MANY
VIETNAMESE.
DAVIES

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